

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009

New Castle Correctional Facility hosted State Representatives Nancy Michael, Gail Riecken, Tom Saunders, and Vern Tincher, Commissioner Buss, IDOC staff, and Community Advisory Board members for a tour and luncheon.

Commissioner Buss spoke at the opening ceremony of the Indiana Association of Community Corrections Act Counties (IACCAC) Conference in Indianapolis. Other IDOC presenters included Jerry Vance, Jim Cox, and Michael Lloyd.

IDOC staff Jack Hendrix, Joe Huff, and Dave Liebel visited the U.S. Penitentiary at Terre Haute to observe the Life Connection faith and character-based program.

Judges from the Ukraine toured Plainfield Re-entry Educational Facility and learned about Indiana's prison system.

The BMV Mobile Unit delivered 117 State ID cards to offenders at Edinburgh Correctional Facility who will soon be released. Over 1560 ID cards have been processed and delivered in 14 days since May!

A team effort between LaPorte Police and Camp Summit Boot Camp will supply free labor to remove graffiti from structures and objects. The new program is available to all property owners within the City of LaPorte.

The Indianapolis Parole Office (PD3) assisted Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department's North-West District, in conjunction with the Marion County Sheriff's Department-Warrant Unit and U.S. Marshals Service, in a community policing activity by conducting compliance visits on paroled offenders residing in this area and no arrests were required.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a luncheon to celebrate completion of the Performace Based Standards (PBS) candidacy program. PBS team members were recognized with certificates and all staff received tokens of appreciation from Superintendent Harshbarger for their extra efforts during PBS data collection months.

Indiana State Prison's Fiscal Department held a bake sale with the profits going to the Stepping Stones Women's Shelter.

Branchville's Therapeutic Communities held a Family Recovery Day this week. Over 50 offenders and their families participated in the program. The focus of the program was to inform family members about what type of treatment is offered through the Therapeutic Communities and how they can help with relapse prevention and re-integration.

The Peace and Learning Center started sessions with Pendleton Juvenile intake students this week focusing on conflict resolution. Staff and students are being trained in a new method for dealing with conflict that will create a unique opportunity to improve the culture in our facility. This program is funded through a grant initiative.

Plainfield Correctional Facility held a staff assembly to keep staff informed on agency announcements. At the assembly, Amanda Hall, CWM from JCF and Regional Trainer for the NIC, delivered a presentation on managing stress and avoiding burnout in the workplace. Ms. Hall's information was well received and much appreciated.

Five students from Logansport Juvenile's CLIFF unit presented the Students Talking About Recovery (STAR) program at Peru Junior High School. The unit also conducted a STAR presentation to a group of student nurses from Ivy Tech.

New Castle staff and offenders presented the Westminster Community Center with a \$10,000 check which will be used to buy clothing and toys for 90 underprivileged children this Holiday Season.

The Department of Labor is issuing Correctional Officer Apprentice Program certificates to 147 correctional staff members. All of these staff member have 5 or more years of service. Congratulations!

This week, Ball State staff began teaching classes for the student population at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility held a career day this week, and offenders learned about auto mechanics.

RDC recently held a Chili Cook-off and raised \$221.25 for the upcoming RDC Holiday Party, during the two-day sale!

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility's PLUS unit made a \$150 donation to the Cass County Ministerial Association. These funds will be disseminated among the Emmaus Mission, Salvation Army, and the Walton Food Bank.

Pendleton Juvenile's Auxiliary Committee held a "Walking Taco" fundraiser for the upcoming Christmas Parties for staff.

ISP's American Legion and Northwest Jaycees donated \$2,500 to the Michigan City Area Schools, which will buy coats for deserving children. The organizations also purchased 50 turkeys for the Salvation Army to give to needy families.

Northeast Juvenile and New Covenant Christian Center provided a Thanksgiving dinner to all offenders.

Westville hosted its largest Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. Ninety volunteers were served in the facility's "Blue Room" dining area. Superintendent Wilson expressed words of thanks for the many hours of service.

"The two most powerful weapons are courage and persistence. Nothing can stop a person armed with both." ~ Scott Sorrell